BOOKS: JO NESBO RISES WITH 'THE SON'

THE SCANDINAVIAN AUTHOR DISCUSSES NEW THRILLER. PAGE 17

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Tuesday, May 13, 2014 www.metro.us | t: MetroNewYork | f: MetroNewYork

NYPD loosens up on condom arrests

Unwrapped. The NYPD said it will limit how confiscated condoms are used in bringing prostitution charges against suspected sex workers. **Still more to do.** Advocates say this is a good first step toward eliminating the fear of being caught with condoms in the city. PAGE 02

Hate in an elevator: Solange hits Jay Z hard

PAGE 16

Angel Olsen burns her fire for no witness

PAGE 19

The kids have taken over the playground!

PAGE 23

MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

PAGE 27

The Rangers rode the inspirational story of Martin St. Louis to a Game 7 in Pittsburgh (7 p.m., NBCS). / GETTY IMAGES

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1 NEWS

NYPD to limit the use of condoms as evidence

New direction. Condoms seized in arrests of suspected sex workers won't automatically be considered incriminating.

New York City police officers will limit how they use confiscated condoms as cause for prostitution charges against alleged sex workers, according to a policy shift announced Monday.

And while many hailed the decision to restrict how seized condoms might be used against individuals found with them during a search, some advocates remain hopeful the city will broaden the new rule's scope.

"It's definitely a step forward," said Natalia Aristizabal, a lead organizer with nonprofit community organization Make the Road. "But as long as having a condom carries a risk to get arrested, I think a lot of people will choose not to carry them."

Aristizabal said while the change is an improvement from the previous administration's defense of detentions and arrests based on condom possession, the conversation continues to be a confusing one that could criminalize condom possession by some sex workers or people who may be trafficked.

The NYPD will still confiscate condoms during arrests but only for safekeeping. / GETTY IMAGES

Protection

Through the city's health department, New Yorkers have had access to free condoms since the 1970s.

- Today, some 38 million free condoms are distributed yearly at about 3,500 locations citywide.
- The change means that condoms found during a search aren't automatically cause for prostitution charges.
- There is no word yet on when the changes will go into effect.

Double standard

"We have the city giving away free condoms, [so] the NYPD [is] saying you can't use condoms here, but you can have them there."
Natalia Aristizabal

In a memo released on Monday, the police department said it would still secure condoms during arrests but only for safekeeping as they do with other personal property, which is returned upon release.

Any condoms confiscated during arrests related to either sex trafficking or promotion of prostitution can still be used as evidence.

The news was welcomed by the de Blasio administration and the five district attorneys' offices.

"This is a reasonable approach to targeting the most at-risk community as it relates to safer sex practices and continuing to build strong cases against the vast criminal enterprise associated with prostitution," Police Commissioner Bill Bratton said.

Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. also voiced his support of the action as a means to curb the spread of disease while still committing to prosecuting offenders.

"I have long believed that it is possible to address the use of condoms as evidence in misdemeanor prostitution-related cases without weakening our ability to prosecute serious crimes, like sex trafficking," Vance added.

Police were unable to confirm at the time of publication when the change would go into effect.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA
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Top 3

Trending online at Metro.us

1. 'Pics of Sabrina Britt, wife of Kenny, in demand after NSFW sex video'
2. 'VIDEO: Serge Ibaka punches Blake Griffin in the groin'
3. 'VIDEO: Kids give hilariously frank reasons for thanking mom on Mother's Day'

Correction

Monday's story about Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei calling the West's stance on his country's missile development "stupid and idiotic" incorrectly included a photo of senior Iranian hardline cleric Ayatollah Ahmad Khatami. Metro regrets the error.

Safety. Law targets campus sex crimes

Officials announced a new law on Monday that targets the "epidemic" of sexual assaults on college campuses.

If passed, the New York City Campus Safety Act would increase oversight of college and university responses after on-campus sex crimes.

The legislation would also establish a multi-agency task force to strengthen sexual assault prevention and increase funding for rape crisis centers.

Announced by Public Advocate Letitia James and other officials, the proposed law comes after the White House Sexual Assault Task Force found colleges and universities were not doing enough to prevent, investigate and report sexual assault.

ANNA SANDERS

Investigation

Man dies from injuries after beating in the East Village

An elderly assault victim succumbed to his injuries from a beating he suffered Friday in Manhattan, cops said.

Investigators identified the victim as Ruan Wen Hui, 68. Hui was rescued after an attack on the street, around the corner from his East Village home.

Authorities said Hui was walking on the block when an unknown black male approached him about 8:43 p.m. Friday. The suspect came up to Hui before starting to yell at him. He than grabbed Hui and pushed him against the wall.

The assailant began to punch and kick the elderly victim before leaving the scene on foot.

Got info?

The NYPD is asking anyone with information on the suspect and deadly incident to contact Crime Stoppers at 800-577-TIPS.

Hui was rushed to Bellevue Hospital in critical condition but died Saturday, police said.

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Officers patrolling MTA stations will have access to the heroin antidote. / GETTY IMAGES

MTA police force will soon carry heroin antidote

Drug. More than 650 MTA police officers will be equipped with naloxone.

Police officers on New York's railways will soon be equipped with a life-saving heroin antidote.

More than 650 police officers patrolling Long Island Railroad, Metro-North and Staten Island Railway trains will carry naloxone, which can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, officials will announce Tuesday.

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's Community Overdose Prevention Program will provide the Metropolitan Transportation Authority with $40,000 to purchase at least 670 naloxone kits.

"MTA Police officers are trained to handle emergencies from the busiest railroad stations to the farthest-flung tracks, and giving them the tools to handle a heroin overdose immediately is simply the right thing to do," MTA Police Chief Michael Coan said in a statement.

MTA officers will also be trained to administer naloxone in a medical emergency.

Effect

"We are making this stunningly effective overdose antidote available on a major artery into New York City's suburbs."
Schneiderman

ANNA SANDERS
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Underground

Man dies after jumping onto subway tracks

A man died after jumping onto subway tracks at Grand Central subway station on Monday, halting service on the 7 train line, officials said.

The man, who was not otherwise identified, jumped onto the Manhattan-bound 7 train tracks just after 1 p.m., according to fire department and MTA officials. ANNA SANDERS

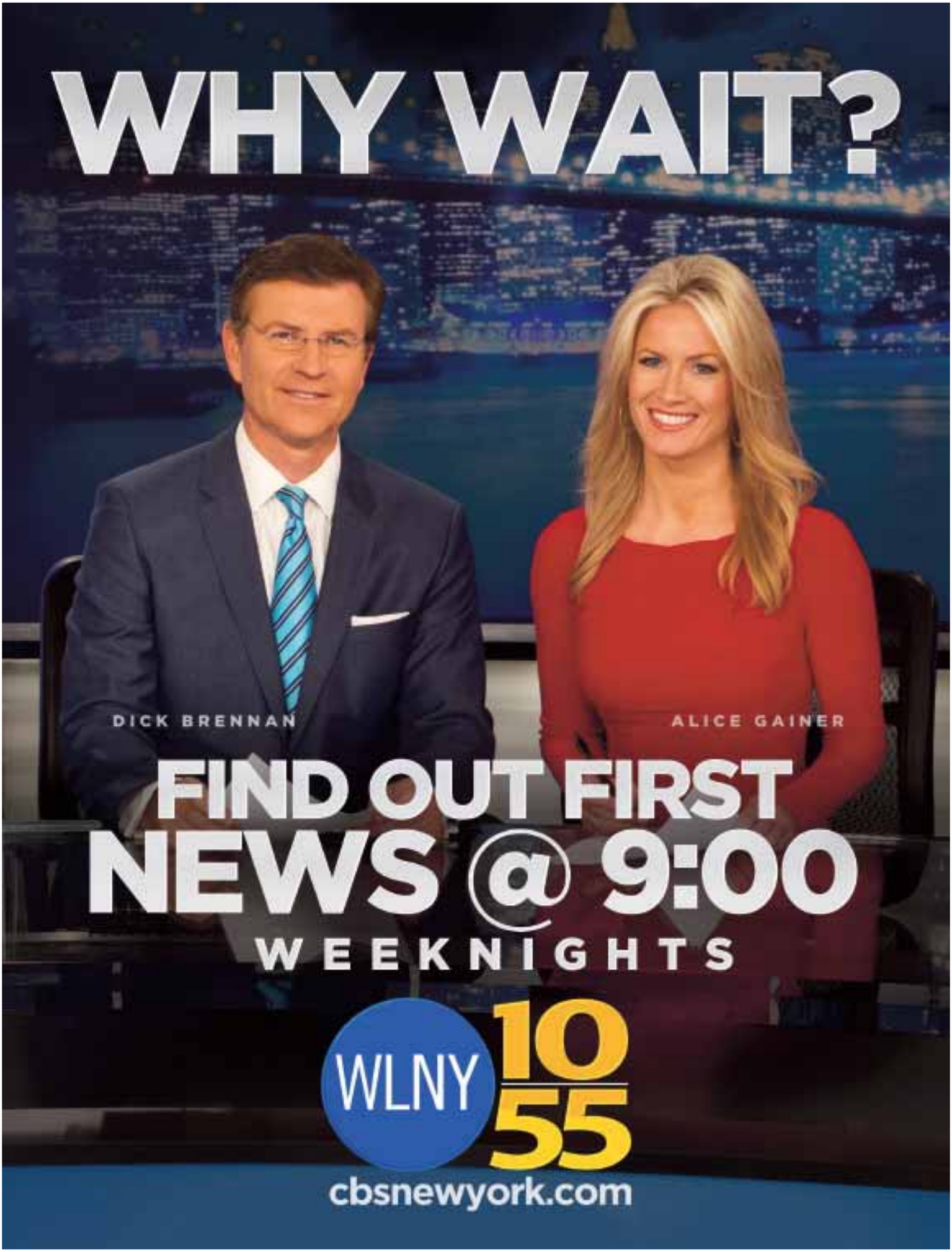
Fight. Hotel probes leak of Jay Z video

The Standard Hotel said on Monday that it was investigating how a recording of a security video that purportedly shows rapper Jay Z being attacked by his sister-in-law, R&B singer Solange Knowles, was leaked to TMZ.com.

The hotel, the venue for a post-Met Gala benefit party, promised to prosecute whoever was behind the recording, calling it a breach of security and guest confidentiality.

Standard Hotel / GETTY IMAGES

The video became an internet sensation, sparking parody videos and photos. REUTERS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In custody. NYPD has suspect in connection with hammer attacks

Police said on Monday that they had a suspect in the series of violent attacks by a hammer-wielding assailant in Queens.

Authorities did not confirm the identity of the man in custody, who had not yet been arrested or charged by early Monday evening.

On Sunday, police were looking for Anthony Coward, 28, in connection with three daytime robberies.

The attacks began almost two months ago. On March 5, a 26-year-old pregnant woman said she was approached from behind on a Jamaica, Queens, street by a man who struck her in the head with a silver hammer and then fled with her handbag.

Then on May 4, a 23-year-old man told police that a man slammed a hammer against his head at the Rockaway Avenue subway station on Fulton Street. The attacker hit the victim multiple times before running off with his wallet.

Most recently a third victim said he was also at the Rockaway Avenue station when the 32-year-old took a hammer blow to the head while using a MetroCard kiosk.

The suspect again ran away form the station with the victim's wallet.

CHESTER JESUS SORIA

Violent crime

In three separate incidents, the robber would come up behind suspects and hit them in the head.

- He would then take their valuables and flee.
- The attacks all happened in Queens.

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Curry is 4 years old and not shy about telling you what she wants. She can be talkative and will make a wonderful companion. Not the biggest fan of other felines, Curry should be the only cat in the home. Her adorable folded ear isn't a cause for concern, but her adopter should keep an eye on it to make sure she doesn't get ear infections. To adopt Curry, stop by the ASPCA Adoption Center, at 424 E. 92nd St., or visit AdoptASPCA.org. / ASPCA

Lots of candles

NYC man named world's oldest

The world's oldest living man is a 111-year-old scholar of the occult who calls New York City home.

Alexander Imich, who was born in Poland in 1903 and survived a Soviet gulag, emigrated to the United States in the 1950s.

He turned 111 in February and assumed the oldest living title last month, according to the Gerontology Research Group.

A sparse eater whose favorite foods are chicken and chocolate, Imich said in his apartment on Manhattan's Upper West Side that he credits good genes for his long life.

"But the life you live is equally or more important for longevity," he said.

REUTERS

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Air traffic. System failure caused by low computer memory

A common design problem in the U.S. air traffic control system made it possible for a U-2 spy plane to spark a computer glitch that recently grounded or delayed hundreds of Los Angeles area flights, according to an inside account and security experts.

In theory, the same vulnerability could have been used by an attacker in a deliberate shut-down, the experts said, though two people familiar with the incident said it would be difficult to replicate the exact conditions.

The error blanked out a broad swath of the southwestern United States, from the West Coast to western Arizona and from southern Nevada to the Mexico border.

As aircraft flew through the region, the $2.4 billion system made by Lockheed Martin Corp., cycled off and on trying to fix the error, triggered by a lack of altitude information in the U-2's flight plan, according to the sources, who were not authorized to speak publicly about the incident. REUTERS

No accidents or injuries were reported due to the April 30 failure, though numerous flights were delayed or canceled. / GETTY IMAGES

Sterling claims he was set up for racist comments: Report

Shelly Sterling. She told ABC News her husband had said he didn't remember making the remarks.

Embattled Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling said he was set up to make racist comments in a taped recording that led the National Basketball Association to ban him for life from the sport, CNN reported on Monday.

"Yes, I was baited," Sterling, 80, told CNN's Anderson Cooper 360 in an interview broadcast Monday night.

More than two weeks have passed since an audio recording emerged in which Sterling chastised a female friend for appearing in public with "black people," including retired NBA great Earvin "Magic" Johnson.

The comments, recorded with Sterling's consent according to an attorney for the woman he criticized on the tape, caused a fire storm of outrage after they were posted online by the celebrity website TMZ.com.

The league slapped Sterling with a $2.5 million fine after he admitted the voice on the recording was his. The NBA owners have started the process of forcing him to sell the team, which he bought in 1981 for $12.5 million and is now worth at least $575 million, according to Forbes. Meanwhile, his wife, Shelly Sterling, said she believed the comments might point to dementia.

"I said, 'Well, this is the tape.' And he says, 'Hmm. I don't remember it,'" Shelly Sterling said. "That's when I thought he had dementia." REUTERS

Sterling speaks / GETTY IMAGES

Quoted

"I mean, that's not the way I talk. I don't talk about people, for one thing, ever. I talk about ideas and other things. I don't talk about people." Sterling

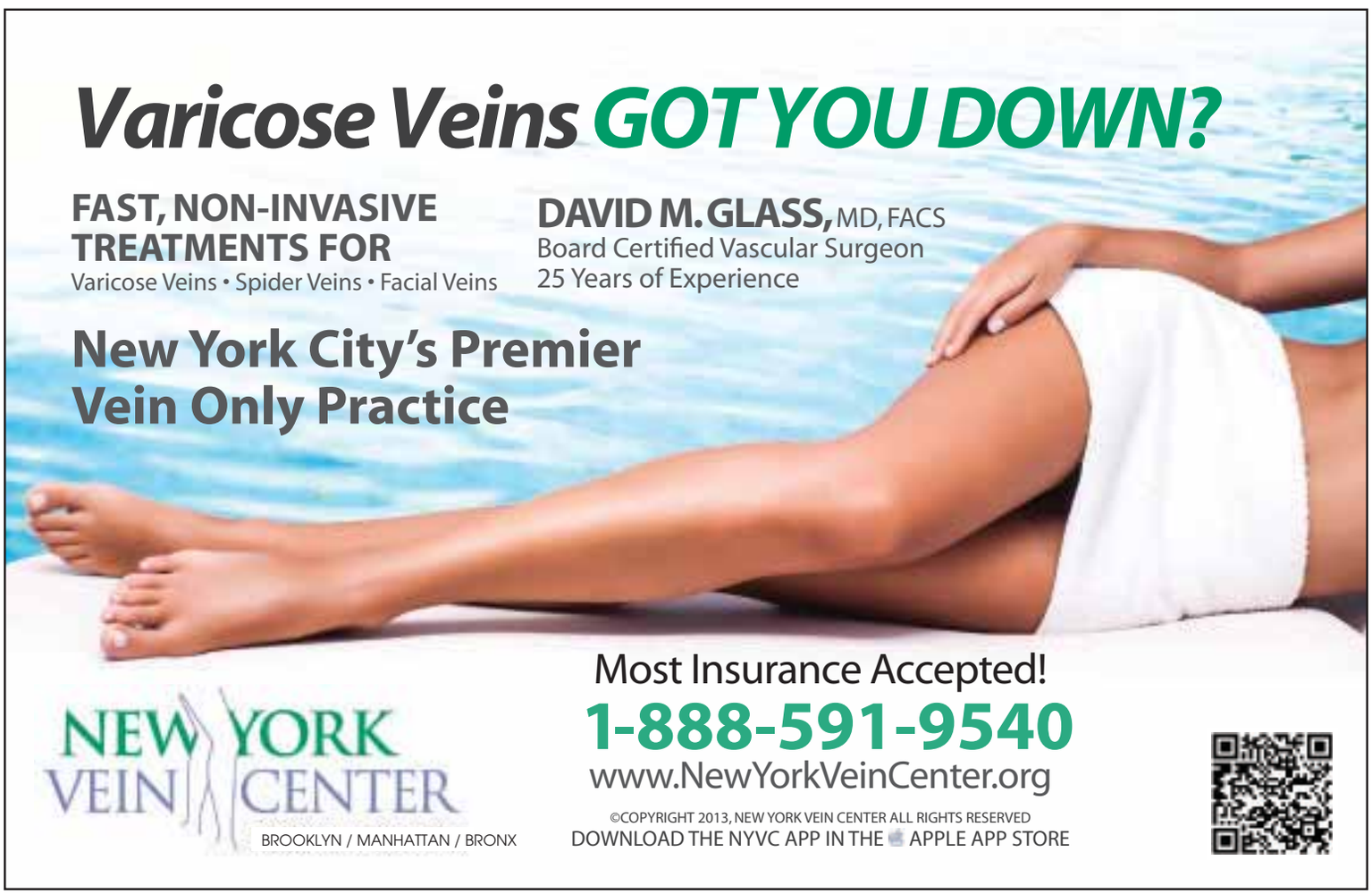
Marriage licenses

Hundreds of same-sex couples flock to Little Rock

Hundreds of same-sex couples, some hoisting rainbow flags, crowded the county courthouse of Little Rock, Arkansas, on Monday to receive marriage licenses after a judge last week struck down the state's 10-year ban on gay marriage.

Arkansas is the first state in the South, where every state has a law banning same-sex marriage, to issue marriage licenses to gay and lesbian couples.

The rush to wed came ahead of a state Supreme Court ruling as early as Monday on an appeal by the attorney general seeking a stay, which would halt the issue of marriage certificates. The appeal also seeks to overturn the decision to end the same-sex marriage ban. REUTERS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Monument reopens after 2011 quake

The Washington Monument reopened on Monday to speeches, songs and fanfare after being closed for almost three years to repair earthquake damage. The 555-foot-high marble and granite obelisk, the tallest stone structure in the world, was praised by speakers at a ceremony as an enduring symbol of U.S. ideals. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and billionaire philanthropist David Rubenstein, who paid for half of the $15 million in repairs, were among the dignitaries who cut a ribbon at the reopening. REUTERS

GETTY IMAGES

Deadly virus. US, Florida officials confirm a second case of MERS

U.S. health officials said on Monday a second case of MERS, a deadly virus first discovered in the Middle East in 2012, has been found in Florida.

The CDC said in a statement it was the second "imported" instance of MERS, meaning a traveler contracted the virus in another country and brought it to U.S. shores. The first such imported case involved a man who flew from Saudi Arabia and traveled to Indiana earlier this month.

The patient in that case, a U.S. health care worker who lives and works in Saudi Arabia, flew from Riyadh to London and then Chicago, before boarding a bus to Indiana. He then began experiencing symptoms of fever and shortness of breath. He sought care at a hospital in Indiana. REUTERS

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Self-rule. Rebels appeal to join Russia after east Ukraine vote

Pro-Moscow rebel leaders in eastern Ukraine called on Monday for their region to become part of Russia, the day after staging a referendum on self-rule, but Moscow stopped short of endorsing their bid for annexation.

Announcing the result of the vote in one of the two provinces where it was held, a leader of the "People's Republic of Donetsk," Denis Pushilin, said it was now an independent state and would appeal to join the Russian Federation.

"The people of Donetsk have always been part of the Russian world. For us, the history of Russia is our history," he said.

"Based on the will of the people and on the restoration of a historic justice, we ask the Russian Federation to consider the absorption of the Donetsk People's Republic into the Russian Federation," he told a news conference.

REUTERS

Denis Pushilin / GETTY IMAGES

Nigeria

Boko Haram offers to swap kidnapped girls for prisoners

The leader of the Nigerian Islamist rebel group Boko Haram has offered to release more than 200 schoolgirls abducted by his fighters last month in exchange for prisoners, according to a video seen on YouTube.

About 100 girls wearing full veils and praying are shown in an undisclosed location in the 17-minute video, in which Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau speaks.

Boko Haram militants, who are fighting for an Islamist state, stormed a secondary school in the northeastern village of Chibok on April 14 and seized 276 girls who were taking exams. Some managed to escape, but about 200 remain missing.

REUTERS

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Summer Camp for Grownups. The Fun Begins Memorial Day Weekend.

My best friends and I have almost nothing in common. I'm a total Type A adrenaline junkie. Katie is laid back and loves to be pampered. And Claire just wants to party all the time. But somehow all of our differences are what make us so great together. Except when it comes to taking a vacation.

Every year we've tried to find the perfect trip for all three of us, where I can be active and adventurous, Katie can work on her tan and Claire can dance till dawn. But somebody always ended up bored.

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Just as we were about to give up, I found the vacation we were looking for in Club Getaway, a "Summer Camp for Grown-Ups". We called and made a reservation for the following weekend.

Katie, Claire and I met up in Manhattan the following Friday to hop on the 90-minute chartered bus ride to Club Getaway, in the Berkshire Mountains.

At Club Getaway I took lessons in rock climbing and the flying trapeze, went mountain biking and even learned to water ski. I won't lie and say I was the most graceful water skier you've ever seen, but I did manage to stay up after three tries – and having a cute Australian instructor didn't hurt either.

Club Getaway, a weekend sports and adventure resort, is located in the Berkshire Mountains of Kent, CT, just 90 minutes from NYC by car or Getaway Bus.

Katie spent most of her time just lounging by the lake with her iPad. Although she did take her first-ever yoga class, along with cooking and wine-tasting classes. She says she was so inspired she might actually use her kitchen. We'll see.

Claire loved that Club Getaway's "Boathouse" had none of what she hates about clubs in New York – a cover, overpriced drinks, or a snobby atmosphere. She was up dancing pretty late on Friday, but managed to wake up in time to hit the massive brunch buffet the next morning. Of course, she bragged that she worked off the three pancakes and omelet by staying active all day. And she actually met the guy she's now dating during the Saturday afternoon softball game.

Even though we often split up to do activities on our own, it was easy for us to meet up throughout the weekend to work in plenty of bonding time. We joined a hike together, met up for meals, danced at the Boathouse each night, and sat around the campfire regaling over the days' events.

I have to say it was perfect. We finally found what we were each looking for in a vacation. We're already checking out clubgetaway.com to plan our next adventure.

Club Getaway Calendar

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US children read, but not well or often, report says

See more at www.metro.us

Not for enjoyment. A large portion of children rarely read for pleasure.

Despite the large percentage of children with below-basic reading skills, reading scores among young children have improved since the 1970s, according to one test that measures reading ability. / GETTY IMAGES

Although American children still spend part of their days reading, they are spending less time doing it for pleasure than decades ago, with significant gaps in proficiency, according to a report released on Monday.

The San Francisco-based nonprofit Common Sense Media, which focuses on the effects of media and technology on children, published the report, which brings together information from several national studies and databases.

"It raises an alarm," said Vicky Rideout, the lead author of the report. "We're witnessing a really large drop in reading among teenagers, and the pace of that drop is getting faster and faster."

The report found that about a third of 13-year-olds and almost half of 17-year-olds reported that they read for pleasure less than twice a year.

Of those who read or are read to, children tend to spend on average between 30 minutes and an hour daily with that activity, the report found. Older children and teenagers tend to read for pleasure for an equally long time each day.

Rideout cautioned that there may be differences in how people encounter text, and the included studies might not take into account stories read online or on social media.

The report also found that many young children are struggling with literacy. Only about one-third of fourth grade students are "proficient" in reading and another one-third scored below "basic" reading skills.

The reading scores among 17-year-olds, however, remained relatively unchanged since the 1970s.

The report highlights some adult behaviors that have been tied to children being more frequent readers. Those behaviors include parents setting aside time to read with their children and parents reading themselves to model good behavior. REUTERS

Reading for pleasure

76%

The report found that the percentage of 9-year-old children reading for pleasure once or more per week had dropped from 81 percent in 1984 to 76 percent in 2013, based on government studies. There were even larger decreases among older children.

Proficient readers

46%

About 46 percent of white children are considered "proficient" in reading, compared with 18 percent of black children and 20 percent of Hispanic kids. Those gaps remained relatively unchanged over the past 20 years, according to the report.

Jogging jams. Music apps for runners match song beats to step counts

Runners who listen to music while exercising can turn to new apps that match the beats to their steps, which app makers claim can increase enjoyment of the sport.

More than 45 million smartphone users in the United States use fitness and health apps, an 18 percent increase since last year, according to global information company Nielsen.

Although runners often turn to apps to track distance traveled, calories burned or to set goals, new apps aim simply to increase enjoyment of running by matching the tempo of the music with the runner's stride. REUTERS

Songs for your stride / COLOURBOX

Limit the damage

WHO wants action as alcohol kills 3.3 million people in 2012

More than 3 million people died from using alcohol in 2012, for reasons ranging from cancer to violence, the World Health Organization said on Monday, as it called on governments to do more to limit the damage.

"More needs to be done to protect populations from the negative health consequences of alcohol consumption," said Oleg Chestnov, a WHO expert on chronic disease and mental health.

He added there was "no room for complacency," warning that drinking too much kills more men than women, raises people's risk of developing more than 200 diseases and killed 3.3 million people in 2012.

On average, according to the WHO report, every person in the world 15 years old or older drinks 6.2 liters of pure alcohol per year. But less than half the population – 38.3 percent –drinks, so those who do drink 17 liters of pure alcohol a year. REUTERS

Clay Aiken primary opponent Keith Crisco dead at 71

Crisco. He had previously served as secretary of the N.C. Department of Commerce.

A screen grab from a Keith Crisco campaign video. / YOUTUBE

Keith Crisco, the candidate running against former "American Idol" contestant Clay Aiken in the Democratic primary for a Congressional seat in North Carolina, has died. The race was so close that both candidates were still waiting on results, though the count on Monday showed Aiken leading by just a few hundred votes after the election last week.

Crisco's death was confirmed by the company he co-founded, Asheboro Elastics Corporation. The Asheboro Courier Tribune reported that he died due to injuries sustained during a fall at home.

The candidates were waiting to see whether they would face a full recount or a two-man runoff. Aiken announced in a statement that he would be suspending all campaign activities, saying that he was "stunned and deeply saddened."

The winner of the Democratic nomination is to run against two-term Republican Renee Ellmers in North Carolina's 2nd U.S. House District.

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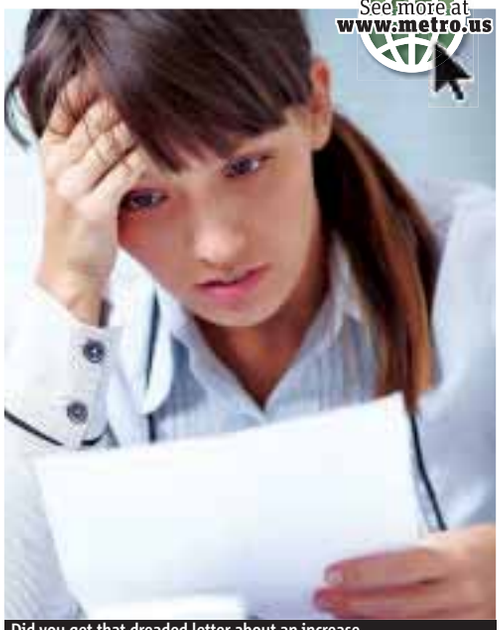


Did you get that dreaded letter about an increase in your rent? Time to move! / COLOURBOX

With summer approaching, you may find yourself facing the question every renter in an expensive city wonders when his or her lease is up for renewal: Should I stay or should I go? If you want to move, what percentage of your income should go toward rent? And if you are willing to pay more than you "should" to live in your dream neighborhood, how can you cut back on other expenses to afford it?

With these queries in mind, we talked to Daniel D'Ordine, a Certified Financial Planner at DDO Advisory Services. "The New York City Rent Guidelines Board suggests that your annual income (pre-tax) be about 40 times what your monthly rent is," he says. "It comes out to about 30 percent of your income."

If you have your heart set on a particular apartment but don't quite meet the standards, all may not be lost. "The landlord would ask for a guarantor to co-sign the lease, like a parent," D'Ordine says. "Then they'd be on the hook, too."

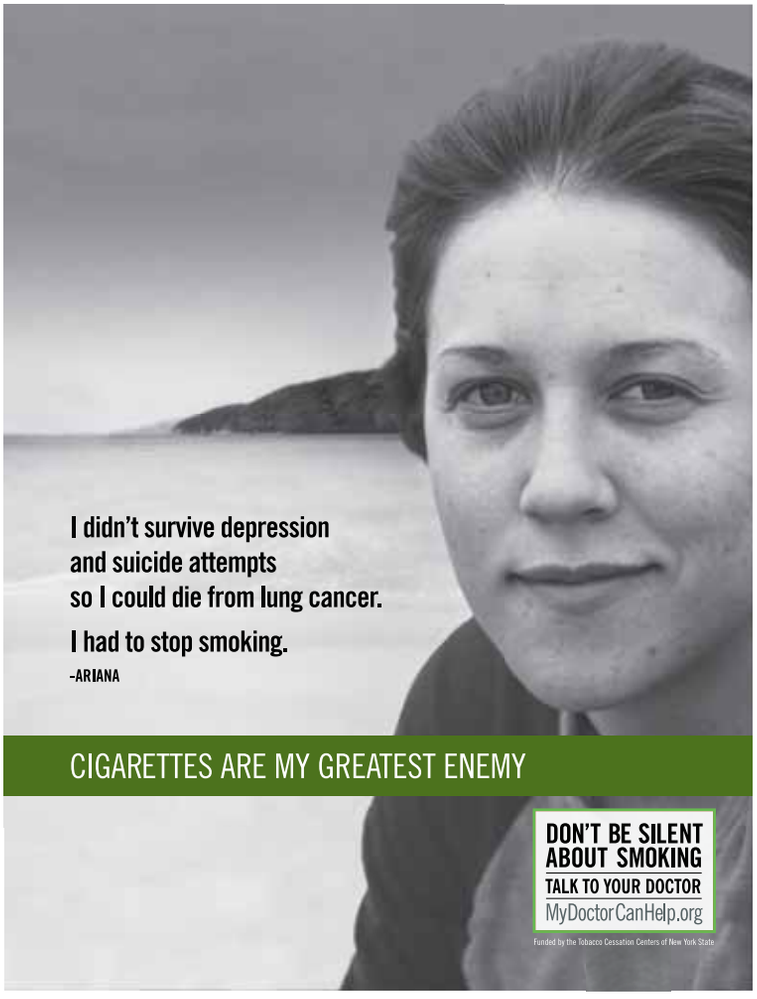
Then it's time to take a look at how you can cut back on other expenses in order to pay the rent. "At this point, at least 60 percent of your income is gone after taxes. Food and drink costs are usually in the top three [spending categories], so cut back on those last-minute dinners and $20 lunches," he says. "Then take a look at other areas and figure out what can be cut. Do you really need cable or a land line? ... A monthly MetroCard costs $112. You'd save $2,000 a year if you took a bike or walked to work," he says.

And never forget to save for your future. "If you put money into a retirement plan, that money doesn't get taxed," says D'Ordine. "People forget taxes are an expense. If you have extra money, start putting some away."

Clothing costs

Shopping tip

You can get suited up for work without breaking the bank, says D'Ordine. "Sometimes if you order six made-to-fit shirts at a custom clothing store it's cheaper. You could also shop online and save, or buy clothing outside [NYC] and save 10 percent on sales tax alone," he says.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How an actor pays the bills

Work life. Meet Jenna, who is trying to make it as an actress while living in one of the country's most expensive cities.

The stats

Jenna Bosco

Age: 25
Home: Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn
Lives with: Four roommates
Number of jobs: 4

Jenna Bosco studied drama at New York University but is still waiting for her big break. / PROVIDED

You're trying to make it as an actress. What does that look like on a daily basis?
Every day I wake up, get online and start looking for work. There are websites and databases where you can look at all the different projects and submit yourself by sending a cover letter and résumé.

So you need to work other jobs to make ends meet.
Right. I have four part-time jobs. On Mondays, I teach drama to a bunch of adorable 5- to 9-year-old kids at a place that is part of a nonprofit. Tuesdays through Fridays I'm a server at B.B. King Blues Club in Times Square. I'm usually there 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. On Thursdays, I work at Bloomberg Business Week, mailing out issues and writing a summary of their top stories every week. My last part-time job is at Pace University as a standardized patient. Basically, I act as a patient or patient's mom to nurses or physician's assistants to help with their interpersonal skills. So I'll play a mom whose son got injured in a soccer game, for example.

How do you deal with being in a competitive industry without getting down on yourself?
I like to remind myself that I made a choice. I could go do other things and work a stable, 9-to-5 job, but I didn't. You also have to believe that you're confident and talented enough to make it. There are so many parts of casting that are out of your control. I've also started using my passion in my own ways, like through the new Web series I'm producing.

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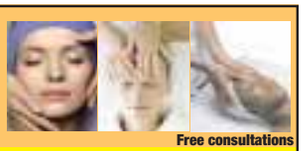

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2 CULTURE

THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson takes on the world of gossip.

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Solange Knowles, below, Jay Z and Beyonce walk the red carpet of the Met Ball, hours before the fight. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Solange attacks Jay Z in shocking video

The public persona of Beyonce and Jay Z is so sterling, so perfect and so controlled that it's fascinating to see a little glimpse behind the scenes. And yesterday, the entire world got a big "OMG!" glimpse.

In an exclusive video posted yesterday on TMZ.com, you can see Beyonce's sister, Solange Knowles, viciously attacking Jay Z in an elevator. A man who appears to be Jay Z's bodyguard holds the swinging and kicking sister-in-law back, but she makes contact with Hova at least three times. For her part, Beyonce just kind of stands there, doing nothing.

The video was taken by a surveillance camera in the elevator of the Standard Hotel after the Met Ball on May 4 during an after-party. As TMZ.com points out, the bodyguard stops the elevator at one point, probably in hopes of keeping this affair private.

Too late.

Is this Paltrow's new man?

In the wake of her split from Chris Martin, Gwyneth Paltrow has reportedly been reconnecting with British actor Max Minghella, son of her late "The Talented Mr. Ripley" director Anthony Minghella, joking to friends "that she wants to adopt Max," a source tells Radar Online.

Paltrow "has allowed Max to use her ritzy Los Angeles house when she's not staying there, as he usually lives modestly in Hollywood." But sources insist romance isn't likely between the two, as Minghella is currently linked to "House of Cards" star Kate Mara.

Instead, the source suggests Paltrow is just looking to bolster her L.A. social circle following her separation.

"Gwyneth continues to promote the close relationships she has in L.A. with friends like Max pretty much as a way to remind people that she's done with London, where she'd lived during her marriage to Chris," the source explains.

"She doesn't have a lot of friends in L.A. yet except for Cameron Diaz and Jennifer Aniston, who are always filming."

X might not mark the spot

Fans of the X-Men tried to set the Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of people dressed as X-Men characters on Monday in London. Judging from this picture, it may not have worked.

Talking points

Trouble at home for Affleck

Ben Affleck is developing quite a reputation in Las Vegas, with several casinos accusing the "Argo" star of card counting — and his wife, Jennifer Garner, is less than thrilled, according to Star magazine.

"Jen demanded to go to Vegas with Ben because she doesn't trust him, and he felt like he had no choice but to take her," a source says of the couple's visit last month that didn't end well for Affleck. "But after their dinners there each night, she would go back to their suite while Ben would stay out all night playing cards, betting thousands of dollars at a time. It makes Jen so mad, but once Ben starts gambling he can't stop." Until the casino intervenes, at least. And the source claims that when Affleck was busted by the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Garner was by his side: "She looked totally bored and annoyed," the source says. "Security confronted Ben. He was told he needed to leave and was escorted out. Before he left the table, he grabbed a ton of chips and put them in his satchel. She followed him out, way behind him. She had her head down and looked embarrassed and ashamed." But back in their room, "Jen screamed at him, telling him he needed to quit gambling for good," the source says. "But he told her he's a grown man and will do what he wants."

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Jo Nesbo on 'The Son,' rock stardom and political corruption

See more at www.metro.us

Thriller. This international best-seller might make you miss your subway stop.

Jo Nesbo is a literary rock star in Norway; he's also actually a rock star for the band Di Derre. Nesbo is most famous for his Harry Hole crime series, but he has also written children's books and is currently working on an adaptation of "Macbeth."

Nesbo's new standalone book, "The Son," tells the story of a young heroin addict in prison who is caught in a web of high-level corruption in Oslo.

Your books are translated into English. Do you feel like your American readers would have a hard time getting all of the nuances?
The more locally you write, the more globally you communicate. Everyone knows what it's like to be in a small town or what it's like to grow up in the country and relate to your environment or to your neighbors.

How do you feel being a rock star prepared you to be a novelist?
Writing lyrics is a very good school for writing a novel. You would think writing three verses and a refrain for a three-minute song isn't much of a school for writing 500-page novels, but it's more or less the same job. You have to find a way to trigger your listeners' imagination and make them [read] the book and find out what the story is in the lyrics, because you can only give so much input through words.

Everyone calls you the next Stieg Larsson, but I heard you don't like that comparison.
I see the need for people to communicate to someone else something about the nature of your books or writing. Stieg Larsson and I are both from Scandinavia, but I don't think we're similar as writers. He is more influenced by traditional Scandinavian crime writing back from the '70s and '80s with a political agenda, which was the tradition for Scandinavian crime novels. I'm probably more influenced by American crime fiction with hard-boiled detectives.

But "The Son" delves into corruption as well. You don't consider that political?
When I write about corruption, it's not necessarily a portrait of the conditions in the Norwegian police force or political life. Just as this book came out, we had possibly the biggest Norwegian corruption case ever. A police officer was arrested and it could have been taken out of a Harry Hole book or "The Son." But I see myself as an entertainer. I think politics are entertaining and I will use them, but just for the use of suspense in the books.

What are you working on now?
I'm working on a rock climbing route outside of Oslo, and apart from that, I'm working on the first book under a pen name Tom Johansen called "Blood on Snow." There's a movie in Norway right now based on the first of my children's novels and they're going to make a new movie next year, so I'm helping a bit with the script for the second movie.

ANDREA PARK
@andreapark
andrea.park@metro.us

Jo Nesbo's "The Son" follows a heroin-addled prisoner. / JORN H MOEN

Trends

Do you think this Scandinavian crime trend has really just been invented by the media?
I think first and foremost what Scandinavian crime fiction has in common is that it's written by a Swede, a Dane or a Norwegian. Apart from that, it's hard for me to see. When a book has a "Scandinavian light," I don't know what they're talking about.

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'Stranger by the Lake'

An old-school art house head-scratcher, Alain Guiraudie's sex-drenched drama hangs at a gay pickup site that's eventually plagued by a murderer. But don't take it too literally or you'll miss its searing portrait of commitment-phobia.

'Il Sorpasso'

The Criterion Collection
$39.95

The gauntlet is thrown early in 1962's "Il Sorpasso." A brash, 40-something alpha male named Bruno (Vittorio Gassman) has just essentially bullied Roberto (Jean-Louis Trintignant), a meek law student, to abandon his studies and hit the road. Bruno brings up "The Eclipse," Michelangelo Antonioni's acclaimed study of alienation in modern Italy. It put him to sleep, Bruno admits. In fact, it probably put much of "Il Sorpasso"'s many original viewers to sleep.

But this isn't mere anti-intellectualism. In fact, poke at "Il Sorpasso" and it pokes back. Bruno and Roberto's jaunt, speeding from place to place in the former's convertible, doesn't scream satire. And yet it takes Italy's temperature, as "La Dolce Vita" did two years prior. It comes to a similar conclusion: that Italy in the 1960s is partying now but the good times will end soon.

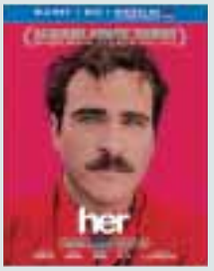
It's just more lighthearted about it. This is a classic tale of an extrovert coaxing an introvert out of his or her shell, one of the most common in comedy. But Bruno is if anything a mega-extrovert: He's loud and dense and easily distracted and proud of the things he doesn't know. He even accidentally hits on his loving daughter, shortly before making an unsuccessful pass at his ex-wife. But he's not a villain or particularly evil; he's even charming. Gassman's performance is not alternately charismatic and monstrous but both at the same time. Given his age, he'd usually be the last guy at the party, but the party's still in full, reckless swing.

Fits of profundity are woven into the film's fabric, arising during bits of downtime. It's easy to get caught up in "Il Sorpasso," but looking back on it after it's over, it seems even better than it did at the time.

Jean-Louis Trintignant and Vittorio Gassman hit the road in the 1962 Italian comedy "Il Sorpasso." / THE CRITERION COLLECTION

DISC JOCKEY
MATT PRIGGE
matt.prigge@metro.us

Also out



'Her'

Scarlett Johansson is on a winning streak, which began with her sharp, audio-only performance as the voice of an operating system that bewitches a grumbly loner (Joaquin Phoenix).

'Vanishing Point'

One of the great car movies finds a driver (Barry Newman) reduced to the only thing he does well: speeding.

'The Day the Earth Stood Still'

Have people forgotten the expensive remake of this 1951 Cold War sci-fi fave? Good, because the original is in HD.

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No Angel at parties

Interview. Olsen talks about her "Burn Your Fire For No Witness" album and about burning her own fire for no witnesses.

Angel Olsen plays a sold-out show tonight at the Music Hall of Williamsburg. / ZIA ANGER

When Angel Olsen was working on her second studio album, "Burn Your Fire For No Witness," which came out in February, she says she frequently found herself adhering to the whole "For No Witness" idea.

"It was all written in the same period, so whenever inspiration came to me, I would stop what I was doing because I could, because I was working for myself," she says. "So it was like, 'I can go home now — instead of this party — and write all of these things!'"

Wait, so she would literally leave parties?

"I remember weird examples," she confirms. "I wrote 'Iota' when it was the middle of summer and I was having kind of a weird day, and my friends had this family picnic at the park and I left. At the time, we lived in Chicago and we had access to this place that had a rooftop. I went up there and had a beer and a guitar. It was just me by myself and I recorded [it] on my phone."

Her vocals on the resulting album feel as intimate as her words. Lyrically, the album includes the sort of musings about loneliness and death that might occur in conversation between close friends.

"I feel like [those are things] we all think about all the time," she says, "but don't talk about."

Cutting deeper

What we write about when we write about love

Olsen says the way she writes has changed because the way she listens has changed: "I would listen to these songs and be like, 'Why are these people always talking about love?' They're just so disappointed. And then I would listen again, and the more you live, the more that these simple thoughts cut deeper. You have more experiences with people and ... with your friendships changing; I think I've developed a different perspective on writing songs about stuff like that."

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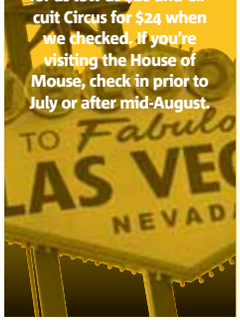
Where you're going

Top destinations

This summer's top destinations are Las Vegas at No. 1, followed by Orlando, Florida. Luckily for you, Vegas is also the top bargain market in the country — if you can play the slots when everyone else is at the office. "Sunday through Thursday in Vegas offers the best deals," Diener says, with Strip hotels like Palace Station going for as low as $16 and Circuit Circus for $24 when we checked. If you're visiting the House of Mouse, check in prior to July or after mid-August.



See more at **www.metro.us**

SAVE BIG ON SUMMER HOTEL DEALS

According to travel-comparison website Hipmunk, the best time to buy flights is the week before Memorial Day, as rates are expected to rise exponentially as the Fourth of July holiday weekend approaches. / DIGITAL VISION

Vacation. Worry about how to spend your time, not your hard-earned cash.

The endless possibilities of summer can feel less infinite if you're trying to plan a getaway on a budget. With airfare, admission prices and restaurants taking an ever-larger chunk, saving where you can means getting creative before you even take off. We talked to Bob Diener, president of GetARoom.com, about how to score a hotel deal in the hottest destinations without paying as much as your rent back home.

Tip

1 Go when the locals are out of town

Getting a good deal "is really about looking at your destination and knowing what's going on there when you're there," Diener says. "The trick is trying to find the destinations where demand is weaker during the summertime." So if you're willing to take your chances with a possible hurricane, Florida's offseason begins the second week of May and lasts through October. "South Beach has all the entertainment, clubs, restaurants, shops — just not as crowded, so you get a much better deal," Diener says. Washington, D.C., is another bargain during August, since Congress isn't in session, which means lobbyists aren't taking up hotel inventory, and that can mean finding deluxe hotels in the city for close to $100. "Business travel is also lighter in July and August in New York, so it's a good value for leisure travelers," Diener says. Rates in London, Paris and other European cities also drop in August.

Tip

2 Look beyond brand names

"You want to look at not the chain hotels but the independent, boutique hotels," Diener advises. "People gravitate to chains because it's a known product," Diener says. "More adventurous travelers like to find something that's more unique and charming and kind of reflects the city that they're going to."

3 Start now

"We're expecting this to be the busiest summer for travel in 10 years," Diener says. The economic downturn created travel doldrums that have definitely passed — but if you start making plans now, there are still bargains to be had. "May is the month to start booking for summer. What we're seeing continuously is that the hotels are doing deals now, and they expect to raise their rates a lot as we get to summer." The rule of thumb for travel is still booking 21 days in advance, but for summer you want to have your itinerary set before the end of this month.

4 Get a quote offline

Travelers know that getting a person on the phone can ultimately score you a better deal than websites alone. GetARoom partners with about 35,000 properties to offer deals that you won't get even directly through the hotels. Call 1-800-HOTELS8 and ask for the unpublished rate. "Most hotels are typically 10-20 percent off, but they can be as much as 60 percent," Diener says.

5 Stay at a hotel within a hotel

Companies like GetARoom purchase a block of rooms and slightly change the hotel's name to offer their own deals. "For example, we have a hotel that we call the Luxury Suite at The Signature, and it's the same hotel as The Signature at MGM but we call it something a little bit different because we have a block of rooms there," Diener explains. And that makes all the difference, with deluxe suites that MGM would sell for between $300 and $400 going for close to $100 a night.

Tip

6 Look for flash sales

GetARoom knows most travelers will shop around, searching four or five websites for the best deal, so it started doing flash sales as a way to serve up an irresistible deal within the first results. "The only thing is you have to make up your mind quickly, usually anywhere from 2 to 24 hours," Diener says. GetARoom does a couple hundred such deals a day, and "once they're gone, they're gone, and those hotels may not participate again for another couple months."

7 Stay longer, get a freebie

"A lot of markets have third-night-free promotions," Diener says. "Most people go for two nights, so check a third night and see if it's free."

8 Don't rely on same-day booking apps

"There's not nearly as many deals last-minute, and that's because hotels are selling out and it's getting busy," he says. Same-day apps tend to have very limited offerings, and booking a few weeks ahead will still yield better deals.

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Tip

9 Don't sleep where you party

Staying in Times Square seems like a great idea, until you realize that New York City traffic never stops and those LCD billboards stay on all night long. Instead of trying to get some shut-eye in the middle of the action, check into a neighborhood like Murray Hill, where the rates are lower and you can be back in the heart of Midtown in a 15-minute walk or short cab ride. In Florida, since you'll need a car to get anywhere beyond your hotel anyway, Diener advises getting out of the neighborhood entirely: "If you want to be in South Beach, the deals might be much cheaper in North Beach, or Hollywood, which is a real bargain bonanza."

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Trip planning. The ins and outs of booking a rental house online

If our hotel booking advice on Page 20 didn't appeal to you, there are plenty of advantages in renting a home this summer instead You get a lot more space, you feel like a local and it's more personal. But what exactly are the rules? Can you bring your dog? Who washes the sheets? We got the lowdown from Jon Gray, the SVP of North American operations at HomeAway, which showcases a cool rental every week in Metro.

EMILY LAURENCE

If you have a positive experience, leave a positive review. It'll help the owners get more visitors. / COLOURBOX

Tips for vacationers

- **Do go with a website you've heard of.** "Search using a reputable site you've heard of that has a lot of listings," Gray recommends. He also advises reading the reviews before you book. That way, you know for sure you're getting what's advertised.
- **Don't be scared to use their stuff.** One of the perks of vacation rentals is being able to cook your own meals. "Food rules are usually talked about ahead of time between the guest and home owner, but typically what you'll find in the fridge are staples to cook with, such as vegetable oil and spices," Gray says.
- **Do ask if you can bring your pet.** Most vacation rental sites have special sections of pet-friendly listings. "You can't assume you can bring a pet. You have to run it by the homeowner first."
- **Don't worry about washing the sheets.** Unless the home owner specifies otherwise, dirty laundry is not your problem. "Some home owners may ask you to strip the beds and put the bedding in the bathtub so it's easier for the cleaner to collect, but this is something that should be addressed in a written agreement beforehand," says Gray.
- **Do be courteous.** Gary says it's a good idea to put all the dirty dishes in the dishwasher and to make sure the place looks as clean as when you found it.

Tips for renters

- **Do your homework.** "Look and see what other properties in your neighborhood are renting for and see what amenities are important," Gray says.
- **Don't keep it a secret from your landlord.** Check your lease to make sure you're allowed to rent out your home and that you have the right insurance. CBiz is one company that specializes in vacation-rental insurance.

Now renting at HomeAway.com

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HomeAway Inc. is the world's leading online marketplace for the vacation rental industry.

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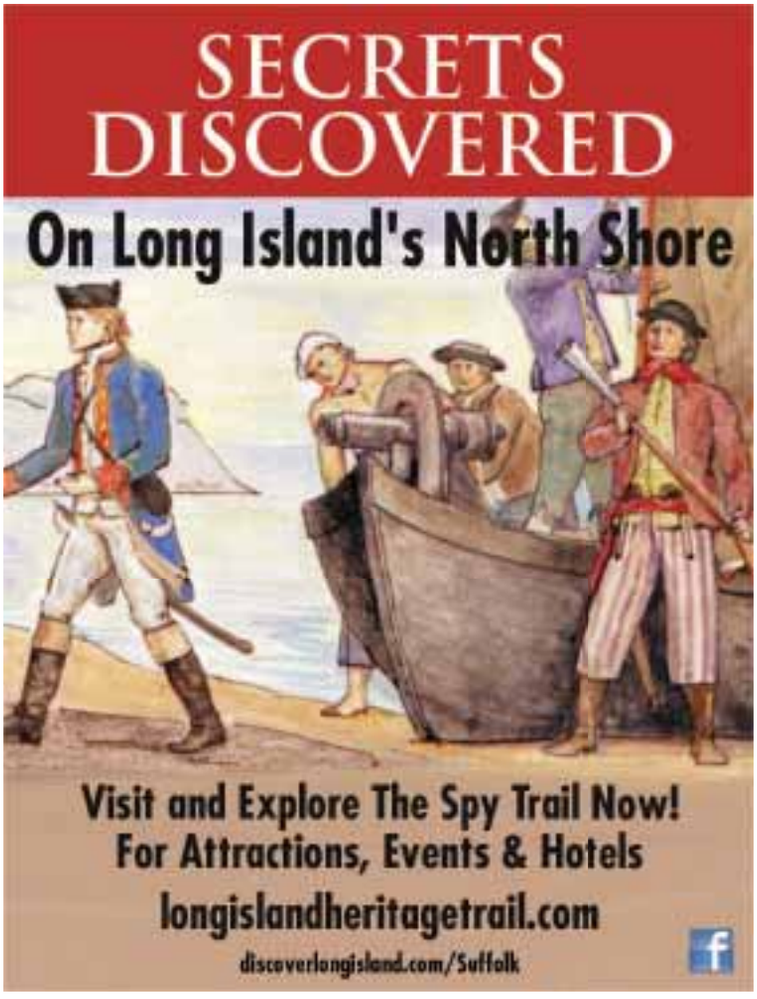

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Kids' dream playgrounds

Imagination.
Here's what your neighborhood park would look like if kids were in charge.

Swings, a slide and monkey bars are pretty standard for a city park, but what would a playground look like if it were designed by kids? KaBOOM! — a nonprofit that creates play spaces throughout the country — partnered with the Mattel Children's Foundation and asked kids to use crafts to show what their ideal playground would look like.

From a super-size slide that can fit a whole group of friends to a graffiti wall, the ideas were as imaginative and creative as only kids can be.

One of the recurring themes was obstacle courses; almost every playground the kids dreamed up had one.

When KaBOOM! builds playgrounds, it makes sure to encourage three things: physical activity, creative challenges to build cognitive skills and social activities to foster relationships and build interpersonal skills. But the focus group showed that kids want these things anyway.

EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us

Reinventing play

Cool contest

KaBOOM! is currently holding a competition looking to find America's Most Playful Family. Go to KaBOOM.org/playful-family to read up on the semifinalists.

Girls ages 8 and 9 created this playground with a graffiti wall, a nail art area and even a cafe where kids can make custom grilled cheese sandwiches. / KABOOM!, MATTEL CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

This one was made by 6- and 7-year-old boys and includes an extensive obstacle course with water traps and even a go-cart track.
KABOOM!, MATTEL CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

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How to talk to teens about sex

Don't avoid it. Celebrities offer tips to make talking about sex with your kids way less awkward.

It's not a conversation most parents look forward to, but considering that more than 700,000 girls will become pregnant this year, not discussing birth control with your teen would be a mistake. Whether you have a son or daughter, having open conversations about sex and pregnancy prevention can help lower the statistics.

The Candie's Foundation is a nonprofit organization that uses pop culture to inspire engaging conversations about teen pregnancy. Their goal is to speak to teens on their level, without preaching, using provocative advertisements and celebrity ambassadors. On May 7, National Teen Pregnancy Day, the organization honored "Teen Mom" star Maci Bookout, Sean Lowe from "The Bachelor" and "Gimme Shelter" actress Vanessa Hudgens. We talked with all three celebrities about how to have the sex talk with as little awkwardness as possible.

EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us

Sean Lowe

- "My advice for parents would be to try and have an open dialogue with your kid. You don't have to preach and teach; have a conversation that goes both ways. Get input from your kids and really try to understand how they're feeling."
- "As a teenage guy, it was really comforting to know that I had my parents' support no matter what decisions I was making at the time. I knew I could go to them when I had the tough questions."

Maci Bookout

- "I think a great way to [talk to teens about birth control] is, honestly, by watching 'Teen Mom.' Use me and the other teen moms on the show as examples. You can say, 'That girl didn't get on birth control. Maybe that's something we need to do for you because you can see how hard it is to be a teen parent.' Use us as a conversation starter."
- "I always tell people, would you rather have the awkward conversation about birth control, or would you rather have the awkward conversation where your kid says she's pregnant?"

Vanessa Hudgens

- "When I did 'Gimme Shelter,' it was the first time my eyes were really opened to teen pregnancy. I think it's very easy to keep it swept under the rug and ignore the fact that 700,000 teen girls get pregnant every year. I lived in a shelter and spent every day with a couple teens who were pregnant. I really immersed myself in their world."
- "If you're a parent, don't be preachy. If anything, that will make your child rebel and go the other way. Any time parents say not to do something, it kind of makes kids want to do it more."

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Forget the park. The city's new 'club kids' are only 10 years old

Sometimes, it can seem like New York City is an adults-only playground. If you bring your kids to a restaurant, you risk dirty looks and poor table placement. The city, it apears, just isn't built for them. Even Spin ping-pong and Bowlmore bowling don't let kids in — even if they are with a parent — after a certain hour. But one couple is trying to change the city's current "no kids allowed" climate.

Jesse Sprague and his wife, Jenny Song, founded Fuzipop! last year. Basically, what they do is turn NYC's hottest clubs into pop-playing arenas for elementary schoolers. Imagine Pink Elephant full of 9-year-olds bouncing up and down, singing along to Miley Cyrus and Bruno Mars. The events are held once a month and take place in the middle of the day; entry for both parent and child to attend the is $20. Once you're there, the club atmosphere is in full effect, with 9-year-old DJ Kai spinning tunes to get everyone on the dance floor. DJ Kai may be only 9, but she's probably cooler than you are, expertly mixing trendy electronic songs with the biggest pop hits.

The pre-junior-high set parties down at a Fuzipop! event. / FUZIPOP!

If you go

To get more information or to check out a list of Fuzipop! events, go to www.fuzipop.com.

"Our goal is to provide an amazing afternoon experience of electronic music, dancing, live performances, art and socializing for the entire family. We want to inspire the next generation of DJs, music producers, artists, dancers and music business moguls. Growing up in New York City is a unique, one-of-a-kind experience, and city kids deserve an event of the same stature," Sprague and Song say on the Fuzipop! website. EMILY LAURENCE

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Horoscope

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. Your many talents will be on display today. While some may appreciate your creativity, others may be jealous.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. It's time to turn up the heat when it comes to love and romance. Set aside some time for intimacy. Plan a special getaway, even if it's close to home.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. Unexpected visitors may cause friction on the home front. Try to be as accommodating as possible, but don't let anyone take advantage.

♌ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. There are some negative rumors circulating. Don't get drawn into gossip, or you will look bad in front of your peers.

♍ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Do whatever it takes to enhance your career. Showcase your experience to prospective employers. Your strong work ethic will increase your earnings.

♎ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Nothing can hold you back once you get some momentum going. Others are starting to show increased interest in your abilities.

♏ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Don't repeat what you hear. Reserve your judgment until you have uncovered the truth for yourself.

♐ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. Many people are on your side, but you must do the work yourself if you want to feel the satisfaction of finishing what you start.

♑ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. Ignore those who aren't directly involved in a certain situation. Keep the facts to yourself, face the issues and resolve them.

♒ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Listening will provide you with excellent information. Don't air grievances to anyone with the ability to alter your goals.

♓ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Don't offer a donation to anyone trying to guilt you into making a contribution. Choose your battles and your charities.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. You may be on the receiving end of criticism from a partner, friend or peer. Show some restraint, and avoid getting into a tug-of-war. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Sudoku: Easy and hard

	8				3		6	
			4			2		
	9	5	1		7			8
	4	3	8					7
		1		9		4		
9					4	6	1	
4			2		5	8	7	
		9			1			
	5		6				3	

4						1	6	
				7	6		4	
	5	6		4	9			
8		1			7	9	3	
	9	3	8			7		1
			7	3		4	2	
	3		6	8				
	2	7						3

How to play
Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Letters

The homeless aren't a joke

Re: 'Jay Z buffers homeless-looking Gyllenhaal, Beyonce' (Metro, May 12) The smug, callous caption chiding "bearded, scruffy" Jake Gyllehhal for looking "homeless" while sitting with fellow gazillionaire celebs Jay Z and Beyonce ($3,000 seats in Calvin Klein Courtside Club at Brooklyn's Barcalys Center?) during Saturday's NBA playoff game sought the cheapest of laughs at the expense of some of our most down-and-out fellow human beings, including many veterans and mentally ill.

What's next, Metro, "retarded"-looking? Caption yourself: Disgraceful. Inhumane. Sophomoric.
CHRIS BERG, VIA EMAIL

Buy some manners with your money, Cyrus

Re: 'Cyrus is back, y'all' (Metro, May 8) Miley Cyrus: With all that money you are making, couldn't you afford to buy yourself a decent dress or a pants suit? What about a decent education and better manners?
RUTH MARTINEZ, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Online

You can use your smartphone to discover today's crossword answers — right now! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle — it's that easy!

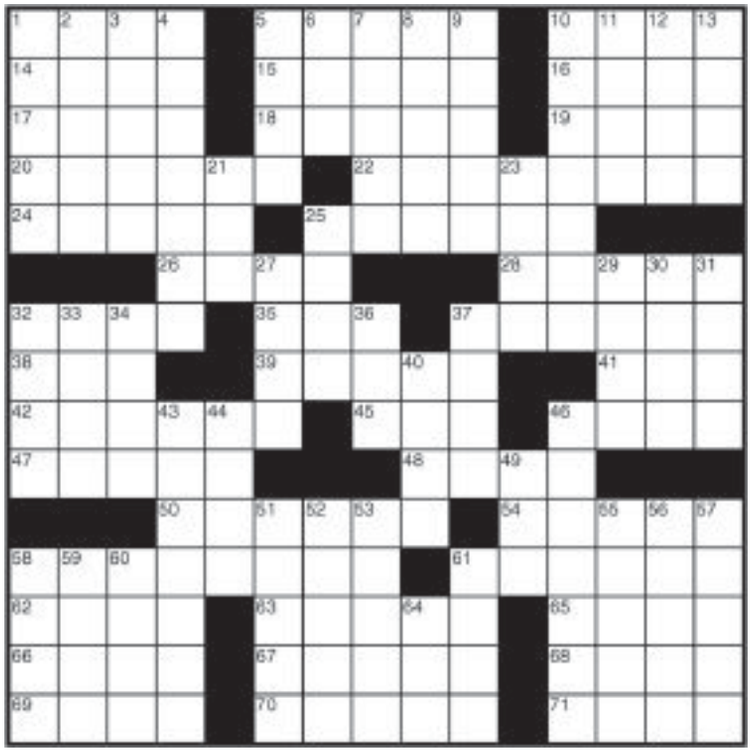
Interactive Crossword

Crossword

Across
1 Funny person
5 Plant parasite
10 — vu
14 Shampoo additive
15 Della or Pee Wee
16 Poet's black
17 Cauldrons
18 Newspaper edition
19 Arrogant
20 Waxes theatrical
22 Chatoyant gems (hyph.)
24 Greek column type
25 Car maker's woe
26 Webster or Beery
28 Keokuk native
32 Dept. store inventory
35 Cause a blister
37 Old Chevy model
38 Yahoo! rival
39 Discount chain
41 Guided
42 Spice trees
45 Woodland creature
46 Type of market
47 Rib-eye
48 Land measure
50 Bookworm
54 Jumbo shrimp
58 Shortens
61 Biceps art
62 Cad
63 Math figure
65 Challenging
66 No future — —
67 Not on all fours
68 Della Street's penner
69 Wacky
70 Strange, plus
71 Clears

Down
1 Gave in
2 Bowie's last stand
3 Turbine part
4 Fix unalterably
5 Kennel sounds
6 Architect I.M. —
7 Therefore
8 Asimov of sci-fi
9 River-mouth deposit
10 Unfold
11 Online auction
12 — de vivre
13 Miller and Blyth
21 Environmental prefix
23 Not chubby
25 Baba au –
27 Places of refuge
29 Room divider
30 Away from the wind
31 Zilch
32 Slickers
33 Pinhead
34 Tart plum
36 Dog-scolding word
37 Roman highway
40 Crowd noise
43 Sort
44 Just scraped by
46 More distant
49 Smog monitor
51 Come to terms
52 "The Wreck of the Mary —"
53 Organic compound
55 Video game pioneer
56 Universe
57 Leaf junctures
58 Phoenix loc.
59 — fide
60 Totally botch
61 Lug along
64 Here, to Pierre

Yesterday's answer



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Rangers in familiar spot facing Game 7

NHL playoffs. New York turned around this series after Game 4.

Alain Vigneault and the Rangers are riding a hot streak into Game 7 against the favored Penguins. / GETTY IMAGES

Derek Stepan couldn't help but laugh after Game 6 when a reporter sarcastically referred to the team's fifth Game 7 since 2008 as being new ground for the Blueshirts.

"It is what it is," Stepan said. "They're fun, exciting games. It's certainly going to be a challenge going into [Pittsburgh] and [trying] to get a game."

That the Rangers have forced a Game 7, on Tuesday night in Pittsburgh, seems borderline improbable compared to where this group was less than a week ago. Following a 4-2 loss in Game 4 — where there were more giveaways (25) than shots on goal (15) — the Rangers held a postgame, closed-door meeting.

The result of that meeting was a team that stressed the series wasn't over. Two wins later, the Rangers have the appearance of a team that deserves its place in the conference finals.

"We didn't feel good about [the Game 4 performance], and the next day we really didn't feel good about it," Brian Boyle said.

"I think to a man, after [the] loss, the next day — aside from ending the season — that's probably the worst I've seen this team feel. Ultimately, I think it was a good thing."

In Games 5 and 6, the Rangers were the aggressors, jumping out to 2-0 leads in both games and forcing the Penguins to play catch-up, which they never did.

"We've done it all year that way and there's no reason we should change," Ryan McDonagh said. "We have worked too hard to not give ourselves a chance and play the way we are capable of.

"We talked about it — using our legs, using our speed and our skills upfront — and we have been able to find it here. Obviously, we have to continue one more time."

DENIS GORMAN
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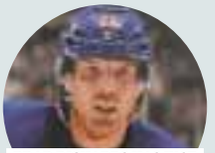
sports@metro.us

Schedule



BRAD RICHARDS HAS JUST ONE POINT THIS SERIES. GETTY IMAGES

The Rangers got off to a good start before Pittsburgh reeled off three straight wins. Now it's all square after two straight wins for New York.

- **Game 1**: Rangers 3, Penguins 2 (OT)
- **Game 2**: Rangers 0, Penguins 3
- **Game 3**: Penguins 2, Rangers 0
- **Game 4**: Penguins 4, Rangers 2
- **Game 5**: Rangers 5, Penguins 1
- **Game 6**: Penguins 1, Rangers 3
- **Game 7**: at Penguins, Tuesday, 7 p.m., NBC Sports

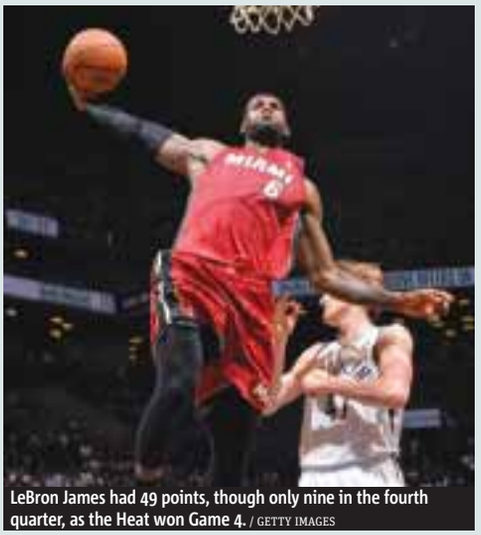
3 SPORTS

Watch online

Find video and recap of last night's Nets-Heat Game 4 at: **Metro.us/sports**

Close to summer

Nets loss puts Heat one game from series win



LeBron James had 49 points, though only nine in the fourth quarter, as the Heat won Game 4. / GETTY IMAGES

The Nets anticipated Game 4 was going to be the LeBron James show.

But even though the Nets were unable to stop James from scoring 49 points they still had numerous chances to even up the series before Chris Bosh hit a go-ahead 3-pointer with 57 seconds remaining.

That put the Nets on the brink of elimination with a 102-96 loss in Game 4 to give Miami a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven series.

James made 16-of-24 shots but once the Nets clamped down — or at least attempted to — that left enough room for others to operate, including Bosh who hit a pair of 3-pointers in the final six minutes.

The one that gave Miami the lead for good came after James encountered a double team in the post. Instead of forcing a shot, he found Bosh open for a 3-pointer to give Miami a 97-94 lead.

By the numbers

59.2

The starting lineup for the Heat shot 59.2 percent (32-for-54) from the field in Game 4.

The Nets never led by more than three points after taking an 82-79 lead on a put-back layup by Deron Williams. After that basket with 10:21 left, Williams missed a layup, Paul Pierce missed a 3-pointer and Miami never allowed the Nets to expand the lead.

Joe Johnson missed a jumper on the ensuing possession after Bosh's 3-pointer and Ray Allen salted away the game with four free throws in the final 10 seconds.

Game 5 will be Wednesday night in Miami. **LARRY FLEISHER**

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Grading the Jets' 2014 draft

Metro breaks down all 12 of the Jets' picks in this year's NFL Draft and grades the team's new class of rookies.

KRISTIAN DYER
sports@metro.us

The Jets left the 2014 NFL Draft with 12 players they hope can make their roster and deepen their team.

But of course there were a couple reaches and head-scratchers throw in. It was a good draft overall for the Jets, who found some value in the middle rounds and did well with their first-round pick.

Here are Metro New York's draft grades for all of the Jets' selections, based not on the player's skillset but the value presented at that point in the draft, especially considering other players who were still available on the board.

Overall grade: B

First round

Calvin Pryor, safety, Louisville (No. 18) — In terms of his skill-set, Pryor brings the proverbial boom on every play — a welcome addition to the Jets backend. He's good in run support, can go sideline to sideline, and he sheds blockers well.

He's short even if he is well built, and his aggressive tackling style — including leading with the crown of his helmet — might quickly irk the referees.

Grade: A–

PRYOR IS KNOWN FOR HIS HARD HITTING, BUT HE HAD SEVEN CAREER PICKS FOR LOUISVILLE.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Second round

Jace Amaro, tight end, Texas Tech (No. 49) — A position of need is filled with this pick, although how Amaro transitions to the NFL is a bit of a mystery.

Amaro played in a wide-open passing offense at Texas Tech, which explains his gaudy reception numbers, but it also leads to questions about how good he really is.

His blocking is also not a strong part of his résumé.

Grade: B

AMARO HAD 1,352 YARDS RECEIVING FOR THE RED RAIDERS' HIGH-POWERED OFFENSE LAST SEASON.

Third round

Dexter McDougle, cornerback, Maryland (No. 80) — There are some nice components to his game, including good overall speed and some nice fluidity to his hips.

McDougle is just 5-foot-10, and he did battle shoulder injuries at Maryland, but he's a nice value pick here with some upside.

The Jets were also badly in need of some help at corner with the departure of Antonio Cromartie in the off-season.

Grade: B

Fourth round

Jalen Saunders, wide receiver, Oklahoma (No. 104) — They finally added a wide receiver with their first pick of the fourth round. The Jets perhaps reached to take him this early but had to fall in love with his speed and hands.

Grade: B–

SHAQ EVANS HAD NINE TOUCHDOWNS LAST SEASON.

Shaq Evans, wide receiver, UCLA (No. 115) — He can be a good possession receiver, though he boasts little upside. Evans won't generate much in terms of elusiveness or yards after the catch.

Grade: C+

Dakota Dozier, guard, Furman (No. 137) — Though he played mainly tackle at Furman, he will move inside at the next level. He will need a year or two to get ready.

Grade: B+

Fifth round

Jeremiah George, linebacker, Iowa State (No. 154) — Not the tallest of prospects at linebacker, the 5-foot-11 George has a thick build and is hard-hitting.

But he doesn't possess great instincts, and a knock on him is that he doesn't always play assignments, which is crucial in head coach Rex Ryan's 3-4 defense. The good news is he has time to develop. And he seems tailor-made to contribute on special teams immediately.

Grade: C

Sixth round

Brandon Dixon, cornerback, NW Missouri State (No. 195) — A bit of a project who is raw and lacking in technique.

Grade: C–

Quincy Enunwa, wide receiver, Nebraska (No. 209) — He has the build (6-foot-2) to be a target wide receiver.

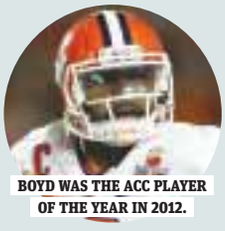
Grade: C

IK Enemkpali, defensive lineman, Louisiana Tech (No. 210) — The Louisiana Tech all-conference standout is too short and narrow to play end in the 3-4 defense.

Grade: C–

Tajh Boyd, quarterback, Clemson (No. 213) — He came into 2013 as a Heisman contender and left a bit of a mess. A lot of questions hang over this nice college QB.

Grade: C



BOYD WAS THE ACC PLAYER OF THE YEAR IN 2012.

Seventh round

Trevor Reilly, linebacker, Utah (No. 233) — As an outside linebacker or a defensive end, Reilly can be a real good one to bring along for the future.

At 6-foot-5 and 225 pounds, he has a good frame and length, although he isn't terribly explosive. He does look good in pursuit. He is a nice value pick in the seventh round when you are just looking for players with upside for your system.

Grade: B

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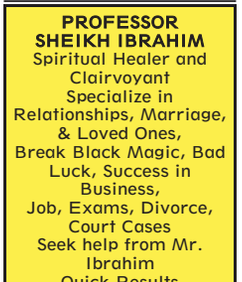
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